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COMMENTS

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TRACE REQUEST	ABSTRACT	INDEX	FILE NUMBER (PRIMARY CODE)
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DBA 67831

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Federal Bureau of Investigation

APR 13 1964

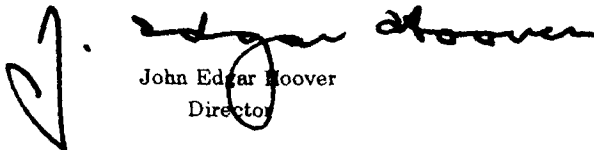
Director
~~Central Intelligence Agency~~
Washington, D. C. 20505

ATTENTION: Deputy Director, Plans

Dear Sir:

- ☒ For your information, I am enclosing communications which may be of interest to you.
- ☐ No further investigation is contemplated with regard to this matter.
- ☐ You will be advised of the pertinent developments in connection with this inquiry.
- ☐ Status of case: ☐ Completed ☐ Incomplete

Very truly yours,


John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enc.

(Upon removal of classified enclosures, if any,
this transmittal form becomes UNCLASSIFIED.)

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In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York

April 8, 1964

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Heinrichs W. Bagatais,
Also Known As

During the early part of 1963, NY T-1, another government agency, which conducts security-type investigations, advised that Heinrichs W. Bagatais, a former Chairman in 1957 of Daugavas Vanagi (Latvian Veterans Organization), New York, New York, was suspected of Russian Intelligence Service involvement by an official German source.

BACKGROUND

On March 3, 1964, NY T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised he has been acquainted with Heinrichs Bagatais since Bagatais first entered the United States during 1951. NY T-2 commented that the subject was an officer in the German Army during World War II and that he lost his left hand during battle. NY T-2 heard that the subject was with his men in a bunker during an attack by the Soviets, at which time the Soviets threw a hand grenade into the bunker. Bagatais picked up the grenade to throw it back and it exploded. The subject, according to NY T-2, receives a pension from the German Government because of this disability.

NY T-2 stated that during the approximate years of 1955 to 1957, the subject was very active in Daugavas Vanagi; however, he has not been active in this organization for several years. It is the opinion of NY T-2 that the subject was eased out of this organization because of his associations with such persons as NY T-2, who are not the right thinking

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or agency.

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Heinrichs W. Bagatais

persons in the opinion of Daugavas Vanagi, which is considered to be an anti-Communist organization.

NY T-2 advised that the subject is not active in politics and does not take a stand to any degree concerning pro- or anti-Soviet views. He advised that the subject has indicated that the past should be forgotten; however, he did recall that Bagatais once made the statement to him that when he was in the German Army he felt that he would have been better off dead than to be captured by the Russians. NY T-2 considers Bagatais to be loyal to the U. S. and no information has come to his attention which would indicate that he has ever had any contact with the Soviets in the U. S. To his knowledge, the subject does not have any relatives still residing in Latvia. He does have a close relative residing in Australia.

NY T-2 was questioned as to whether he had ever heard any rumors which would indicate that Bagatais had homosexual tendencies. He advised that he has never heard anything concerning the subject which would indicate that he might have homosexual tendencies and, in fact, he knows that Bagatais had a girl friend for several years and one of the reasons for his moving to Australia during 1962 was to get away from a girl friend who wanted to marry him. NY T-2 indicated that the subject seems to exhibit the normal male interest in the female sex; however, he was not interested in marriage during 1962. He further stated that he has known of several older men renting rooms in the subject's apartment; however, he has never known of any young boys residing with Bagatais.

NY T-2 stated that the subject resides in a large five room apartment at 412 Cathedral Parkway, New York City. This apartment is furnished with expensive furniture and paintings.

He also stated that during 1959, Bagatais went on a trip around the world and this trip cost him more than

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Heinrichs W. Bagatais

\$2,000. On this trip he visited a relative in Australia. During the early part of 1962, the subject moved to Australia with the intention of living there. However, after living there one year, he returned to the U. S. because he did not enjoy living in Australia and did not have the freedom he had in the U. S.

NY T-2 stated he was confused by the fact that Bagatais seems to live so well and has money for expensive furniture and trips around the world. He commented that he is quite certain that the subject could not have made, in his employment, enough money to have taken a trip around the world and be able to live in such a fine manner. He was of the opinion that it was quite possible that while Bagatais was in the German Army he may have been able to obtain such items as precious jewels which he could have conceivably brought into the U. S. and sold, thus obtaining large sums of cash.

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